25X1

1

EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

2 January 1968

De Gaulle Sees GDR as Obstacle to Detente

A French diplomat in Berlin has said that De Gaulle, who at one time had toyed with the idea of intensifying relations with East Germany, has changed his opinion of the GDR and now views it as the main obstacle to East-West detente in Europe. De Gaulle reportedly is particularly displeased with the unyielding East German line toward initiatives from West Germany.

As indications of this shift in the French position, the diplomat cites the recent removal by French police of a large name plate from the GDR trade office in Paris and the absence of French trade ministry officials from GDR sponsored social functions.

COMMENT: While the French leader has maintained a policy of non-recognition of the GDR, he has also advocated that the German problem must be settled by Germans themselves.

25X1

Rumania and Portugal Negotiate Trade Agreement

The government-to-government agreement, Portugal's first with a Communist country, is being kept secret pending formal Rumanian ratification.

25X1

GROUP I
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION

-2-

conclusion

of the agreement will be announced early in 1968.

25X1

Negotiations started about two months ago and were held in Bucharest.

25X1

25X1

COMMENT: Rumania has increasingly turned toward the West in its quest for greater economic and political autonomy of the USSR. Moreover, neither Rumania nor Portugal believe that politics should interfere with trade.

Last January, Rumania signed a commercial and consular agreement with Portugal's neighbor, Spain. Diplomatic ties between Bucharest and Lisbon may not be far away.

Czechoslovak News Agency Correspondent Expelled from Peking

Correspondent Miloslav Strouhal, whose articles on the cultural revolution were transmitted to the Czechoslovak News Agency and subsequently printed in the party daily Rude Pravo, left Peking on 30 December after the Chinese foreign ministry refused to extend his accreditation. A Chinese press officer accused Strouhal of "sharp and poisonous" attacks against Chinese policy.

25X1

COMMENT: The Czechoslovak press has published some very bitter reports on the Chinese situation during the past year, with sharp personal attacks against Mao, and characterizing the cultural revolution, among other things, as a "fairy tale."

Yugoslav Party Specialists Consult with Hungarian Counterparts

Two leading Yugoslav party specialists on interparty relations talked with their Hungarian counterparts in Budapest during 21-23 December. Next February's consultative meeting of Communist parties in Budapest undoubtedly

25X1

-3-

was the main discussion topic of Nijaz Dizdarevic, a member of the Yugoslav party's Executive Committee, and Zvonko Grahek, counsellor of the central committee's department of international relations.

25X1 25X1

COMMENT: Recent articles in the Yugoslav press clearly evidence Belgrade's continuing opposition to the Budapest meeting. Dizdarevic carried to Prague last April Yugoslavia's refusal to attend the Karlovy Vary conference.

25X1

Hungarians to Increase Emphasis on Martial Sports

Lt. General Gyula Uszta, secretary general of the Hungarian National Defense Association and deputy defense minister reported at a 19 December press conference that all elements of the National Defense Sports Association would soon be fully merged into the newly organized (Sept. 67) National Defense Association. Uszta said "we want to get more young people to engage in and improve their knowledge of technical sports with a bearing on national defense." Uszta mentioned flying, parachuting, model constructing, amateur radio, driving, rifle shooting and skin diving as sports of particular interest. Uszta also said that European and world contests would stimulate interest in national defense competition.

25X1 25X1

NOTE: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE REPRESENT ONLY THE ANALYSIS OF THE EE DIVISION

25X1

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 1968

Undated	Czechoslovakia	•	Ecuador to open Consulate 25X1 General in Prague and possably Warsaw.
	Hungary	9	Kadar to visit Rumania.
	Bulgaria	•	Premier Zhivkov to Cuba late January or early February.
3	Czecho sl ovakia	•	Czechoslovak Party Plenum to cesume.
7	Yugoslovia	:	Tito begins trip to Afganistan, Pakistan, India, Cambodia, and Ethiopia.
10	Bulgaria	:	25X1 11th Bulgarian Komsomol Congress io open.
17	Rumania	:	Premier Mauer and Foreign Minister Manescu to Italy.
22	Czechoslovakia	:	Czech-US civil air negotiations esume in Washington.